

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-10

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

SAJ-01 ACDA-10 IO-10 /089 W

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R 181302Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4901

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 4050

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, EG, IS, US

SUBJECT: SYRIAN REACTION TO SINAI AGREEMENT - OCTOBER 17-18

1. SUMMARY: SYRIAN MEDIA HAVE NOT YET REPORTED WITHDRAWAL OF EGYPTIAN PILOTS FROM SYRIA. END SUMMARY.

2. DOMESTIC

SYRIAN MEDIA HAVE NOT YET REPORTED EGYPTIAN DECISION TO WITHDRAW PILOTS FROM SYRIA.

BAATH PARTY REGIONAL COMMAND DEPSEC GEN MUHAMMAD JABIR BAJBUJ OCT 16 TOLD VISITING ITALIAN COMMUNIST DEPUTY BOYARDI THAT "AS RESULT OF CONSPIRATORIAL AGREEMENT IN WHICH SADAT SURRENDERED EVERYTHING, AMERICAN IMPERIALISM WILL BE ABLE TO REALIZE ITS GOALS."
SYRIAN PROFESSIONAL UNIONS PUBLISHED STATEMENT OCTOBER 17 DEPLORING "DEFEATIST AGREEMENT."

3. FOREIGN

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OCTOBER 17 AL-THAWRAH REPORTED THAT ARAB STUDENTS IN POLAND CONDEMNED AGREEMENT.

OCTOBER 18 AL-THAWRAH REPORTED ALLEGED US REFUSAL OF ENTRY VISAS TO PALESTINIAN UN DELEGATION IN CONTEXT OF COMMENT THAT "PARTIES TO SINAI AGREEMENT HAVE BEGUN TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PLAN AGAINST PALESTINIAN CAUSE INTERNATIONAL- LY." AL-THAWRAH NOTED THAT "OBSERVERS AGREE CONDUCT OF EGYPTIAN REGIME FOLLOWING SIGNING OF DEFEATIST AGREEMENT HAS ENCOURAGED EEC STATES TO ADOPT POSITIONS IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL." AL-THAWRAH ADDED THAT THESE TWO ACTIONS LATEST IN SERIES WHICH INCLUDES QUESTIONABLE EGYPTIAN CONDUCT AT KAMPALA AND LIMA CONFERENCES AND AT UNGA.

AL-THAWRAH REPORTED STATEMENT BY SECRETARY TO CONGRESS INFORMING MEMBERS THAT US LEGALLY COMMITTED TO SUPPLY ISRAEL WITH OIL AND CONSULT WITH ISRAEL IN CASE OF ANY THREAT. AL-THAWRAH ADDED THAT AMERICAN NEWS AGENCIES CLAIM EXISTENCE OF 29 OTHER COMMITMENTS TO ISRAEL AS PRICE FOR SIGNING AGREEMENT.

AL-THAWRAH PRINTED HAYKAL ARTICLE IN WHICH FORMER GEYPTIAN EDITOR ASSERTED THAT AGREEMENT DIRECTED TOWARD UNDERMINING ARAB SOLIDARITY.

REUTERS DISPATCH FROM JERUSALEM REPORTED FIRST MEETING OF ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN JOINT COMMISSION WILL TAKE PLACE IN SINAI OCTOBER 22.

4. COMMENTARY:

OCTOBER 17 AL-BAATH COLUMNIST CRITICIZED EGYPT FOR SPREADING FABRICATED NEWS ABOUT IMMINENCE OF GOLAN AGREEMENT ON PATTERN OF SINAI ACCORD AND THAT MEETING BETWEEN FORD AND ASAD WILL TAKE PLACE IN EUROPE. HE REMARKED THAT "BANK- RUPTCY OF EGYPTIAN REGIME POLITICALLY AND ITS INABILITY TO DEFEND ITSELF AND FIND ACCEPTABLE JUSTIFICATIONS FOR AGREEMENT ARE SIGNS OF ITS INCAPACITY TO MISLEAD ARAB MASSES."

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OCTOBER 18 AL-THAWRAH COLUMNIST CLAIMED THAT "FAILURE OF PARTIES TO SINAI AGREEMENT TO ARABIZE LEBANESE CRISIS REUSLT OF FIRM SYRIAN AND PALESTINIAN POSITIONS.
MURPHY

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